

House Republican Press Release

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O'Neill Named Ranking Member of Appropriations



Veteran legislator tapped to lead GOP on budget-writing committee

HARTFORD- State Representative Arthur J. O'Neill (R-Southbury) has been tapped by House Minority Leader Robert M. Ward (R-North Branford) to serve as Ranking Member of the legislature's powerful budget-writing Appropriations Committee.

"Representative O'Neill has distinguished himself as a member of this chamber in a variety of capacities," said Minority Leader Ward. "Most recently, Arthur O'Neill's integrity, sense of duty, and attention to legal detail were indispensable when he served as Republican Chairman of the Committee of Inquiry that investigated Governor Rowland. It is just that type of capable leadership that I know he will bring to his service as Ranking Member of the Appropriations Committee."

"I am very honored by Representative Ward's faith and trust in my abilities," said Representative O'Neill. "The state is facing a number of critical budget issues which will come before the Appropriations Committee, not the least of which is a projected \$600 million deficit. There will be a number of challenges ahead, and I look forward to meeting them."

Representative O'Neill was first elected to the legislature in a special election in 1988, and most recently served the house Republican caucus as an assistant minority leader, and chairman of the bill screening committee. He was re-elected in November of 2004 to another two-year term.